

## INTERCOLONIAL.

The treasurers of St. Mary's Cathedral Building Fund, Sydney, acknowledge the receipt of £500 from the executors of the estate of the late Hon. Thomas Dalton.

The death is reported of Sister Mary Antonia, of the Convent of Mercy, Adelaide. The deceased nun some years ago was, as Miss Gertrude Toleman, one of the most gifted students of the convent.

At the sixteenth annual social in connection with St. Patrick's Branch of the H.A.C.B. Society, Adelaide, a presentation, consisting of a Gladstone bag and dressing case, was made to Rev. Father McGrath, chaplain of the branch. Councillor F. B. Keogh, in making the presentation, referred to Father McGrath's excellent work on behalf of the society, and the deep interest he had taken in the branch.

Very Rev. W. J. Quilter, of St. Francis Church, Melbourne, was presented with an illuminated address and purse of 125 sovereigns by his parishioners and friends, on the occasion of the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood. The ceremony took place in the Hibernian Hall, and Mr F. Reynolds presided. The presentation was made by Mr J. G. Duffy, M.L.A., who gave some interesting historical facts and reminiscences of the old church from the time when Dean Geoghegan first celebrated Mass in it in the year 1839, and in acknowledging the gifts, the recipient referred at length to the wonderful progress of the Church in Victoria.

The Orange party (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the *Otago Daily Times*) made an effort to capture the Melbourne meeting of Protestant clergy which was convened to organise an agitation against the Catholic vote in regard to religious education—though nowadays 'Scripture lessons' are demanded. It was most noticeable at the meeting that the Orange champion, the Rev. D. M. Berry, was uproariously applauded. But the more moderate and saner men carried the day—the Rev. Dr Marshall, Fitchett, and Bevan. These men took the view that if the Roman Catholics had any organisation they were only within their rights; more shame to the Protestants that they had not organised long ago; and that any organisation of the Protestant vote might well be carried out without specific antagonism to any Catholic vote. And to this view the meeting agreed. The resolution reads to 'organise a Protestant vote so as to give it due weight in the politics of the country'; not as it was suggested it should read, to counteract the Catholic vote. It is pretty safe to predict that very little will come of it. The country is not with the clergy—not even for Scripture lessons in schools.

The *Australian Star*, writing on the great Home Rule demonstration which took place the other day in Sydney, said:—'That Irish-Australians would rally in force at such a demonstration as took place in the Town Hall was a foregone conclusion. Home Rule for Ireland are words indeed to conjure with wherever Irishmen or their descendants are to be found in any numbers. The enthusiasm they evoked from the vast audience that gathered in the Town Hall was unmistakable. Nobody who attended that meeting could doubt for a moment that faith in the cause of self-government in the country from which they trace their origin is as strong as ever among the Irish of Sydney. Their belief in that direction is one at all events which even those who do not share in it should at least be able to respect. No fact is better attested, not only in this part of the world, but in many regions besides, than that an Irishman's devotion to his native land has never interfered with his loyalty to the land of his adoption. At the meeting in question Irish-Australians in the second generation found some notable representatives, conspicuous among whom were the chairman (his Worship the Mayor of Sydney, Mr Thomas Hughes), Senator O'Connor, and Mr F. W. O'Sullivan, the Minister for Public Works.'

While the brilliant soprano, Amy Castles, was singing in Sydney (says the *Freeman's Journal*) the critics of the daily Press tried hard to lead the public to believe that Signor Dani, the favorite Italian tenor, was as much the attraction as Miss Castles. Their notices were headed 'Castles-Dani Concerts,' and in the case of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* it was pretty openly announced that the writer thought 'no great shakes' of Miss Castles and swore by the tenor. At that time we ventured in these columns to suggest that, with a view to test the matter, Signor Dani's friends should give a series of concerts for him without Miss Castles, and thus judge the drawing power of their star. This has since been done. The *Telegraph* reporter reports the result, which we reprint for general information:—'With the many concert novelties in view and several recent appearances of Signor Carlo Dani, it was scarcely to be expected that the Italian tenor, despite his pronounced popularity, would draw a very large audience to the Town Hall on Saturday evening last. Mere curiosity has been exhausted in the tenor, and at the present time he naturally only appeals to the regular concert-goer. But in addition no particular skill was exhibited by the management in initiating the season, and the result altogether was a comparatively small attendance. This in no way checked the enthusiasm of those present. Double encores, as heretofore, were rapturously demanded.' The text has, therefore, been made, and the inference is now plainly deducible that the great crowds which assembled at the 'Castles-Dani' concerts were there primarily to hear the soprano, and not the tenor. Take away the soprano, and the crowds vanish, and the result is 'a comparatively small attendance.' In making these few observations we do not wish to be understood as criticising Signor Dani. We regret that his concerts have not been largely attended, and we hope that at future concerts crowds will come to listen to his beautiful voice. He was in no way responsible for the attempts of ignorant persons to boom him at Miss Castles' expense.

## Friends at Court

### GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- July 27, Sunday.—Tenth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Veronica Juliana, Virgin.  
 „ 28, Monday.—St. Victor I., Pope and Martyr. St. Innocent I., Pope and Confessor. Sts. Nazarius and Celsus, Martyrs.  
 „ 29, Tuesday.—St. Felix II., Pope and Martyr.  
 „ 30, Wednesday.—St. Martha, Virgin.  
 „ 31, Thursday.—St. Ignatius Loyola, Confessor.  
 August 1, Friday.—St. Peter in Chains.  
 „ 2, Saturday.—St. Stephen I., Pope and Martyr.

#### ST. VICTOR I., POPE AND MARTYR.

St. Victor I. was Pope from 192 to 201. He was a native of Africa, and exerted his zeal particularly in the controversy relating to the celebration of Easter. For the settling of this question he held a Synod at Rome, and called upon the bishops everywhere to meet in councils for the same purpose. He excommunicated Theodotus of Byzantium, and decided that common water might, in case of necessity, be used in baptism.

#### ST. INNOCENT I., POPE AND CONFESSOR.

St. Innocent I. occupied the Papal Chair from 402 to 417. He warmly espoused the cause of St. John Chrysostom, who had been unjustly deposed and exiled. To save Rome from being sacked, he urged Emperor Honorius to treat for peace with Alaric. Innocent condemned the heresy of Pelagius.

#### ST. FELIX II., POPE AND MARTYR.

St. Felix was Supreme Pontiff about the middle of the fourth century. No records of his life are extant.

#### ST. MARTHA, VIRGIN.

St. Martha was a sister of Lazarus, whom Our Lord raised from the dead. During the great persecution of the Church at Jerusalem, Martha, Lazarus, Mary Magdalen, and other Christians were placed on a vessel without sails, rudder, pilot, or provisions so that they might perish in the midst of the sea. The vessel landed at Marseilles. St. Martha having converted the inhabitants of the city of Tarascon, lived there until her death in A.D. 84. She was buried in the actual crypt of the Church of St. Martha. She is the patron saint of Tarascon.

#### ST. IGNATIUS LOYOLA, CONFESSOR.

St. Ignatius was born at Loyola, in Spain, in the year 1491. He served his king as courtier and soldier until his thirtieth year. At that age, having been severely wounded, he received the call of Divine grace to leave the world and follow Jesus Christ. Prompted by their generous love he and his companions made a vow to go to the Holy Land; they wished to live where their Divine Master lived; they were prepared to die where He died. But war broke out and prevented the execution of their project. Then they turned to the Vicar of Jesus Christ and placed themselves under his obedience. This was the beginning of the Society of Jesus. When St. Ignatius died in 1556, it was firmly established in many countries of Europe, and engaged in successful missions in Asia, Africa, and America. It possessed upwards of a hundred houses and colleges, and numbered more than a thousand members divided among twelve provinces. Many Jesuits became martyrs of charity, others suffered actual martyrdom in China, India, Japan, and North and South America. From a rough calculation it would appear that, from 1540 to 1773, 21,000 Jesuits were employed in foreign missionary work. During this period, 500 Jesuits were recorded to have won the martyr's crown; some at the hands of the heathen, others through the persecutors of modern Europe. Of these martyrs three have been canonised, 75 beatified, and 27 declared venerable.

#### ST. PETER IN CHAINS.

There are four festivals of St. Peter; 1. The feast of Peter and Paul, on June 29th. This commemorates the burial of St. Peter and St. Paul, and is mentioned in the Liberian Catalogue. 2. Feast of the 'Cathedra of Antioch,' February 22nd. This feast is also mentioned in the Liberian Catalogue. 3. The feast of the 'Cathedra of Rome,' January 18th. 4. The feast of 'St. Peter in Chains,' August 1st.

### 'Mr. Washington.'

THERE is a fine, grim humor shown (says the *Arc Maria*) in the incident of a flag of truce coming in at New York bearing a message from General Howe addressed to 'Mr. Washington.' The Father of our Country took the letter from the hand of the English soldier, glanced at the superscription and said: 'Why, this letter is not for me! It is directed to a planter in Virginia. I'll keep it, however, and give it to him at the end of the war.' Then, cramming the letter into his pocket, he ordered the flag of truce out of the lines and directed the gunners to stand by. In an hour another letter came back addressed to 'His Excellency General Washington.'

The 'Excelsior' plough is 'Champion of the World.' On hill-side, lea, swamp, tussock, or stubble it is equally at home.—Morrow, Bassett and Co., sole agents in New Zealand —\*\*\*